

1986 — A Year of Startup

IPSC

Unit 1 Responsibility — In June a major milestone was reached. IPSC was able to assume full responsibility for the first of IPP's two units. This was after nearly four years of intense training, start-up activities, and valuable on-the-job experience.

New Department Head — In May, Mr. Joe D. Hamblin was approved by the Board of Directors as the Superintendent of Maintenance. Mr. Hamblin replaced Richard K. Caudron, who had resigned.

IPSC Corporate Officers and Department Heads — IPSC Staff consisted of the following IPSC Corporate Officers and Department Heads:

S. Gale Chapman, President and Chief
Operations Officer; Neil H. Clay,
Secretary/Treasurer and Manager of Support
Services; Robert A. Davis, Vice-President and
Superintendent of Operations; Norman Mincer,
Manager of Converter Station; Joe D. Hamblin,
Superintendent of Maintenance; and Dennis K.
Killian, Superintendent of Technical Services.



RSC Dedicated — The Railcar Service Center was dedicated on June 28. The Springville site was selected because it was midway point from the mines to the power plant. It was also in close proximity to the Union Pacific track and to the Utah Railway and Denver and Rio Grande Western interchange connections. The facility provided for crew changes, traffic coordination, and switching. In addition to eight miles of track, the facility would have its own switch engine and a large building equipped with cranes, jacks, and other necessary repair equipment. The cost to build the facility was approximately \$15 million.



Hay Group Job Evaluation — The Hay Group conducted a detailed job evaluation study, which was used for comparing IPSC jobs with jobs at comparable utilities. This was the basis for establishing pay grades for IPSC job classifications.

Union Vote — Workers voted 200 for a union and 179 for no union.

Electronic Office — Discarding of the pencil and paper pad began with the purchase of IBM Displaywriters in 1986. This electronic word processing continued to evolve with the installation of the Prime computer system. The Prime system included an electronic office automation application called OAS. It contained functions such as electronic calendaring and word processing. This operated on a Prime (9950) mini-computer system and was accessed through the terminals located at individuals' workstations. In addition to OAS, several micro-computers called Prime Producers were installed in the Clerical Pool area for the purpose of word processing. These workstations were networked together to share documents. Following OAS was a product called AFCAD. The AFCAD product became the word processor of choice as it operated from the Prime computer.

Variable Loading System — After the Intermountain Generating Station had some experience burning coal, the need to reduce pulverizer vibration while maintaining optimum pulverizer performance at various coal feeder speeds was identified as a major concern in need of a solution. The pulverizers ground coal using the roll-race method, a rotating table turning under three pivotally supported roll wheel assemblies. A study of methods to control wheel pressure on the table to reduce vibration and optimize performance was begun. The results of the study suggested variable pressure on the roll wheel loading frame would achieve the desired improvements. A plan was organized which set forth a timetable and a budget for the installation of the necessary equipment.

Boiler Mobile Platform — During construction the decision was made to issue a contract for the construction of a powered work platform for maintenance access to the boiler furnace and superheat sections. This mobile platform could be installed in the boiler within one shift and disassembled in approximately the same time. Typical scaffold based systems required four-to-six days around-the-clock work for full access installation.

This system would be driven by four hydraulic hoists. The nominal design factors would ensure the hoist system was capable of lifting over six times the total load of both the platform and the allowable live load. Two 40-foot by 40-foot sections would be assembled for access to the front sections of the furnace. Two 8-foot by 40-foot platforms would also be used for access to the rear wall beneath the bull nose.

Prior to initial installation and operation, the manufacturer provided on-site training for both installation and disassembly.

Predictive Maintenance — During 1986 as Unit 1 start-up was in progress, several instruments for vibration diagnostic analysis were purchased including a spectrum analyzer, oscilloscope, and signal recorder. As rotating equipment was started up and checked out during the system start-up period, the vibration was analyzed. On several occasions problems were identified and corrected, demonstrating the value of the technology.

Concerns began to surface regarding the cooling tower gearboxes in 1986. Oil samples were obtained from the gear boxes and taken to the fuels lab for analysis. One of the lab technicians was asked to develop a testing procedure for evaluating the oil. Oil analysis practices began to be developed. This eventually led to a full-time position and the development of an in-house lab. Oil analysis allows detection of the early stages of equipment failures.

Soot Blower Control — The soot blowing system that was installed during construction was developed by Diamond Power. This system was called Combustion Monitoring Cleaning System or CMCS. The system provided reliable service and served the power plant very well. However, as the CMCS system aged; Diamond Power stopped manufacturing replacement parts. IPSC determined that the CMCS system would be viable for several more years, and that a new Diamond Power system would be purchased when it was no longer practical to maintain and support the current CMCS system with in-house repairs and parts.

Number of Employees — By the end of the year, the number of employees was 539.

LADWP

Operating Agent Representative — Because of changes in Mr. Robert L. McMillen's job assignments, a new individual was appointed as the Operating Agent. Mr. Robert L. McMillen was replaced by Mr. Bruce E. Blowey as the Operating Agent Representative.

Construction — This year saw many construction activities reach their apex. It was the start of the process of completing the construction and preparing to turn the Project over to IPSC.



Unit 1 First Coal Fire Complete — The first coal fire of Unit 1 was completed in February.

Test Energy Delivered — The first test energy was delivered to purchasers in April.

Unit 1 Commercially Available — Unit 1 was completed and declared commercially available on June 10.

IPA

Unit 1 Operation — Firm Operation of Unit I was declared on July 1. The dedication of Unit 1 was performed in September. Governor Norman H. Bangerter was invited to be the guest speaker.

New General Manager — W. Boyd Christensen was named as the new general manager. He replaced Ronald L. Rencher who took a job with another energy company. Mr. Christensen assumed the duties of the position in July. IPA's legal counsel, George S. Young, served as interim manager until Christensen arrived.

Other

Adelanto Dedicated — The Adelanto Converter Station was dedicated.

Medical and Dental Insurance — Eventually, the size of IPSC's work force made it possible to obtain competitive bids from several insurance carriers for coverage. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Utah was the successful bidder.